

NOTICE TO THE BAR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT PANEL FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Since 1971, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey has maintained a list of attorneys to be appointed as counsel for eligible defendants pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act ("CJA"), 18 U.S.C. §3006A. The Court has adopted a CJA Plan, revised as of December 10, 1997 and effective September 11, 1998, which "particularize(s) the requirements of the CJA, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 . . . and the CJA Guidelines in a way that meets the needs of this district." In summary, the CJA Plan has established a Panel Selection and Management Committee which meets annually to consider applications for the District's CJA Panel. The District's CJA Panel consists of 100 attorneys, divided by Vicinage who are members in good standing of the Bar of this District, and have trial experience and knowledge of the Federal Rules of Criminal and Appellate Procedure, the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and the Local Rules of both the District and Circuit Courts. The CJA Panel consists of 100 attorneys selected by the Committee based upon merit and experience.

Membership on the CJA Panel is ordinarily for a term of three years; however, the initial CJA Panel was divided into three groups which were appointed to serve staggered terms of one, two or three years, respectively. The Court also established a "CJA Training Panel" consisting of attorneys who do not yet have the experience required for membership on the CJA Panel, but who are willing to attend training programs and to serve in a "second chair" capacity (without compensation) in order to gain trial experience.

On March 11, 2004, the term of one-third of the members of the CJA Panel, who were appointed for a period of three years, will expire. The Court invites all attorneys interested in

becoming members of the CJA Panel to submit an application to William T. Walsh, Clerk, United States District Court, Clarkson S. Fisher Courthouse, 402 East State Street, Room 2020, Trenton, NJ 08608, on or before January 15, 2004. Application forms and copies of the CJA Plan may be obtained from the Clerk of Court in Newark, Trenton and Camden, or may be downloaded from the Court's website at: pacer.njd.uscourts.gov. No application will be considered unless it is received and/or postmarked no later than January 15, 2004. The Court, in conjunction with the Office of the Federal Public Defender, the Association of the Federal Bar of the State of New Jersey and the Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys of New Jersey, has arranged annual training programs for new and experienced panel members. It is anticipated that the application and selection process to fill the vacancies for one-third of the CJA Panel will be completed on or before March 15, 2004. Any member of the CJA Panel whose term will expire on March 11, 2004, may apply for reappointment.

All qualified attorneys are encouraged to apply for membership on the CJA Panel. The Panel Selection Committee shall determine membership on the CJA Panel on the basis of merit and experience, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, or disability.

Any inquiries regarding the CJA Plan or the application process should be directed to William T. Walsh, Clerk, United States District Court, Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building, 50 Walnut Street, Room 4015, Newark, NJ 07102-0419, telephone number 973-645-6697.